BENGALURU, MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

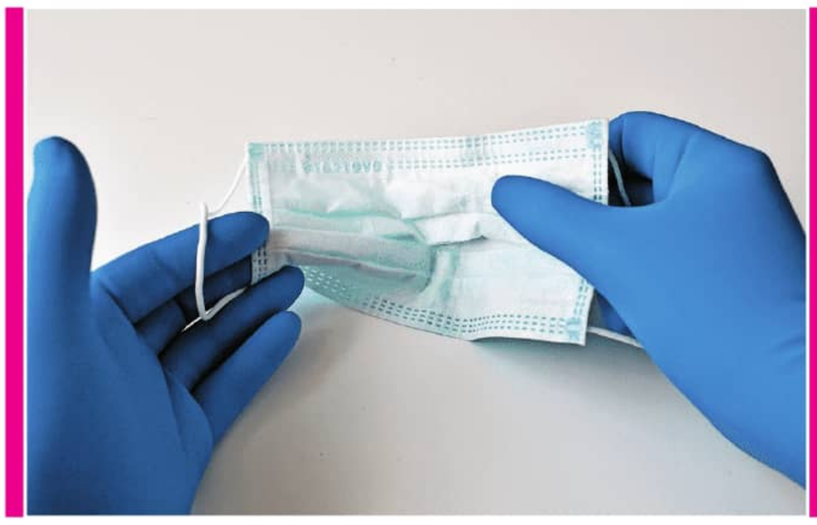
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 32 | Min 23 | Humidity 49% Partly sunny Sensex 77,328 | Nifty 24,176 | Gold 1,53,234 | Silver 2,64,700 | Dollar 94.71 | Euro 111.35 | GBP 129.06

BULLYING TACTIC

Verbal abuse and threats women animal feeders facing in city at all-time high as police complaints fail to have effect

PAGE 3



VIRUS FEAR

As Hantavirus outbreak on cruise ship creates global concern, read in detail about this virus and if there is any cause for worry in India

PAGE 9

As yet another flyover joins city's long list of structures set for demolition, experts say haphazard planning without foresight is causing officials to sink in big bucks in projects that are supposed to last for ages only to bring them down within years

IT'S A RAZE AGAINST TIME IN BENGALURU

IOC Junction flyover cost around Rs 6 cr when it was built in 2001-02; Jayadeva flyover cost around Rs 21 cr

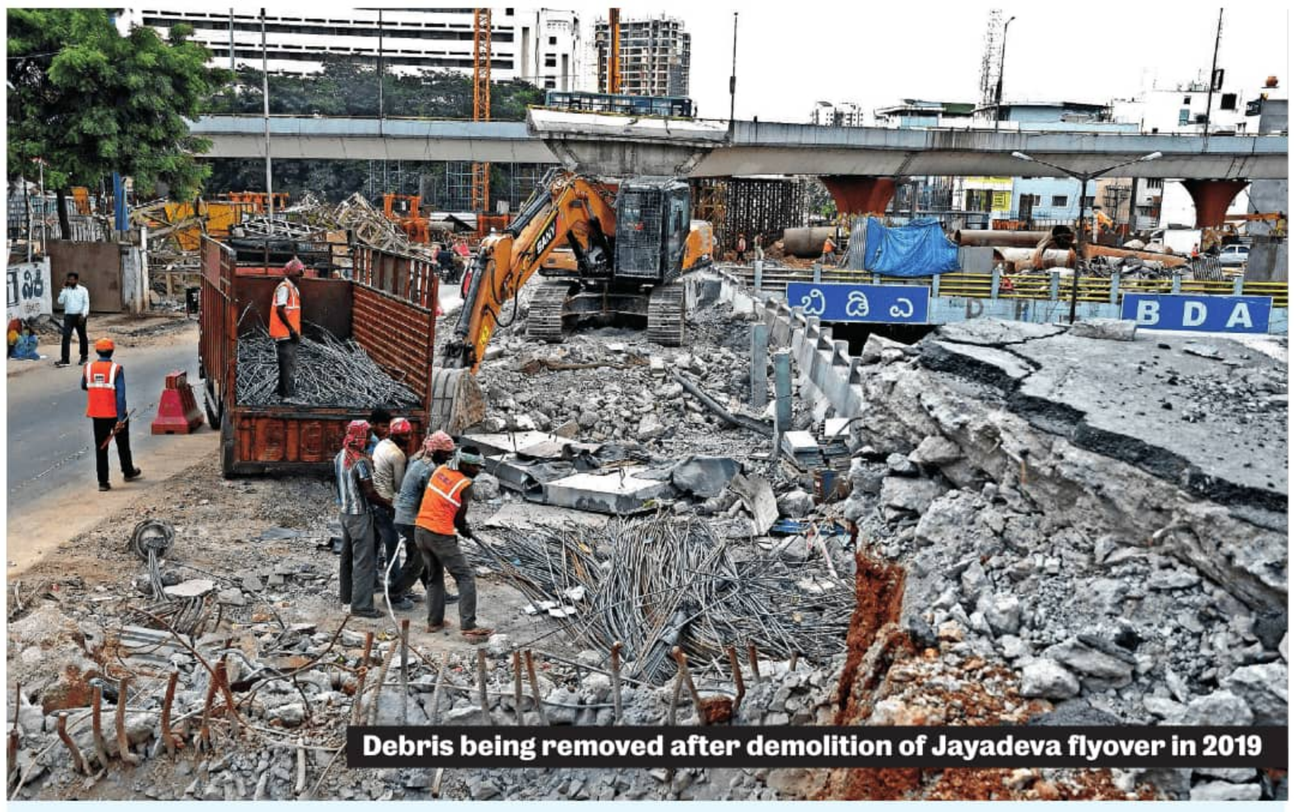
| Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Technically, a well-engineered flyover or bridge is designed to last between 75 and 100 years with proper maintenance. In infrastructure planning, such structures are expected to serve multiple generations before requiring major reconstruction. But in Bengaluru, some flyovers don't even survive two decades.

Instead of becoming long-term mobility assets, several of the city's high-profile flyovers are now being demolished, redesigned or rebuilt within years of inauguration, exposing what urban planners describe as a deep crisis in infrastructure foresight.

The latest addition to this growing list is the IOC Junction flyover in East Bengaluru. Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) has announced plans to demolish the existing flyover near Baiyappanahalli and replace it with a massive elevated rotary flyover project costing ₹436 crore. The structure being razed was built

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »



Debris being removed after demolition of Jayadeva flyover in 2019

"What Bengaluru needs is not more isolated flyovers, but a unified mobility blueprint. Infrastructure decisions must survive changes in traffic patterns, Metro expansion and urban growth —Vasudev Raja, civil engineer

Deep in the woods

15 crimes recorded in B'luru under Forest Act and Forest Conservation Act, which is highest across all 19 metros in India

| Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru has topped the charts for forest-related crimes in the country. According to the National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) Crime in India 2024 report, Bengaluru registered 15 crimes under the Forest Act, 1927, and the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, the highest number across all 19 metropolitan cities in India.

This is despite a drop in the number of environment-related offences in Karnataka in 2024, compared to 2023 offences. The state logged 1,214 environment-related offences, against 1,589 offences in 2023.

Overall, 989 crimes under environment and pollution-related acts were registered in the city, including 974 crimes under The Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003.

Notably, no crimes under the Air Act, Water Act, Noise Pollution Act, or the Environmental (Protection) Act were reported from the city.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Artistic journey

Magical World, an exhibition featuring a vibrant collection of artworks by Badrunissa Irfan, brings alive the magic of childhood and the warmth of simple moments through playful, hand-painted characters and scenes. **Where: Sublime Gallery, UB City; When: Until May 30**

02 Camping stories

Career Compass, in association with Laughing Elephants, presents an unforgettable outdoor summer camp amidst the tranquil Sharavathi backwaters near Jog Falls. Designed for children and teenagers aged 10 to 18, the camp offers opportunities to explore nature and build new skills. Those interested can contact for registration: +91 98450 47991. **When: Until May 21, June 11 to 25**

03 Unmatched match day

Loco Lane transforms match day into a premium fan sanctuary, offering all inclusive IPL screenings with gourmet dining and the comfort of premium box seating for an elevated experience. **Where: Loco Lane, Ashok Nagar; When: Until May 31, 5 pm**

04 Sunday adventure

The Oterra Hotel is hosting a Kids Carnival Brunch, bringing a vibrant world of cartoon legends and superhero adventures. While parents are offered a premium spread to relish, children can dive into interactive games, live performances and more. **Where: The Oterra Hotel, 24@43, Electronic City; When: Every Sunday until May 31**

05 Lost in the beat

Rudraksha Live Entertainment Pvt Ltd presents Jazbaa, a concert featuring Vishal and Rekha Bhardwaj — a powerhouse duo in Indian music and cinema, known for their deeply moving collaborations and individual brilliance. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity; When: May 30, 7 pm**

New initiative to tackle pornography addiction

NIMHANS launches new online programme to provide stigma-free support system for individuals facing problems due to overconsumption of pornography

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Intervention programme, designed to overcome barriers to treatment-seeking, delivers five-week online module with multimedia content and therapist feedback after each session

As conversations around digital addiction and compulsive online behaviour grow louder, mental health experts at National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) are turning attention to the lesser-discussed issue of Problematic Pornography Use (PPU), a condition that experts say can affect emotional well-being, relationships, work and self-esteem when consumption becomes compulsive or emotionally distressing. To address the issue and overcome the stigma attached to seeking help, researchers at NIMHANS have launched a five-week online intervention programme based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), aimed at adults struggling with pornography-related difficulties.

The initiative, led by Rajashekar M, PhD Scholar at NIMHANS, seeks to provide an anonymised and stigma-free support system for individuals experiencing difficulties related to pornography use.

Explaining the distinction between regular pornography consumption and PPU, Rajashekar M said, "Pornography consumption can be considered non-problematic when it is aligned with one's values, under control, and does not lead to negative consequences or personal distress. In such cases, it is often used for recreational or entertainment purposes."

However, he said, some individuals develop adverse consequences in major life domains such as academic/occupational functioning, relationships and finances or experience personal distress such as feelings of guilt or shame related to their pornography use. "This distinction forms the clinical difference between typical pornography use and Problematic Pornography Use (PPU)," he added.

According to him, global prevalence of PPU risk ranges between 3.2 per cent and 16.6 per cent, with Indian studies often showing higher prevalence among college students and young adults. At the Service for Healthy Use of Technology (SHUT) Clinic at NIMHANS, around two to three such cases are seen every month.

"However, this does not mean the prevalence is low; rather, awareness and stigma act as barriers to seeking professional help," Rajashekar M said.

Researchers noted that PPU may impact mental health, emotional well-being and relationships. "In our recent study on PPU among Indian adults, we found higher levels of depression, stress and anxiety in individuals with PPU compared to those without. Many also reported guilt, shame and issues with self-esteem related to their pornography use," he said.

He further explained that pornography use becomes problematic when it shifts from entertainment to being used as a coping mechanism.

The intervention programme has been designed to overcome barriers associated with stigma and treatment-seeking. Participants will undergo a five-week online module that includes text, audio and video-based content. After each module, trained therapists will provide text-based feedback based on participant responses.

"There is no need for an in-person consultation or meeting with a therapist; however, if participants wish for further support or treatments, they can visit NIMHANS, or a local referral can be provided," Rajashekar M said.

Manoj Kumar Sharma, Professor of Clinical Psychology and Coordinator of SHUT Clinic, noted that there is an increase in awareness about the impact of consumption of pornography. "Most treatment seekers prefer online help due to difficulty in attending in-person sessions or due to privacy issues related to the problem. The present intervention programme is a one-of-its-kind initiative in the Indian context to provide online help," he said. The study is open to those above 18 years of age who are experiencing challenges related to pornography use.

Condolences pour in after Minister D Sudhakar's demise

Karnataka Minister D Sudhakar died in the early hours of Sunday after a prolonged illness, a medical bulletin said. He was 66. The planning and statistics minister breathed his last at the Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences in Bengaluru. He had been undergoing treatment for a lung infection for the past two months. "Honourable Minister Mr Sudhakar D, 66 yrs old, was declared dead at 3.15 am on 10.05.2026 in Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Electronic City," Dr R Chinnadurai, Medical Director of Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, said in the bulletin. Sudhakar was a senior Congress leader and the MLA from Hiriyur in Chitradurga district.

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said he was saddened to hear about Sudhakar's death. Condoling his death, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said Sudhakar had rendered exemplary public service in a people-friendly manner. Leader of Opposition in the Karnataka Assembly, R Ashoka, too, expressed his grief. **— PTI**

AI helps quash fake Ayushman Bharat insurance claims

The National Health Authority (NHA) has said artificial intelligence is being used to detect and prevent fraudulent insurance claims under the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), saving nearly Rs 630 crore over the last two years. NHA CEO Dr Sunil Kumar Barnwal said several hospitals, agencies and individuals attempted to misuse the scheme by submitting fake medical records, but AI tools identified suspicious claims and stopped approvals. The authority has also shared details of hospitals involved in fraudulent activities with respective state governments for strict action, including blacklisting. Officials said that while manual claim processing can take nearly 20 days, AI technology resolves around 90 per cent of cases within four hours. The system is expected to expand to cover insurance processing for over 2,000 diseases under PMJAY. AI is also used for disease diagnosis, particularly for the early detection of cancer cases to improve treatment outcomes.

The announcement was made during a two-day Hackathon-2026 organised by the NHA in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc). **— BMB**

Karnataka ranks third in corruption cases across India

Karnataka ranked third in the country in the number of corruption cases registered during 2024, according to the latest 'Crime in India-2024' report released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). While Maharashtra recorded the highest number of cases at 721, followed by Tamil Nadu with 364 cases, Karnataka reported 334 corruption-related cases, accounting for 8.3 per cent of the total 4,053 cases registered across the country.

Of the 334 cases registered in Karnataka, 237 involved Lokayukta police trapping government officials and staff in bribery cases. The remaining cases included 75 instances of possession of disproportionate assets, 17 related to criminal misconduct and 5 under other categories. Officials said that opening Lokayukta police stations in all districts encouraged people to come forward with complaints, leading to a higher registration of cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act. However, they noted that the number of cases in 2024 was lower compared to previous years, with the state recording 389 cases in 2022 and 362 in 2023. **— BMB**

Narrow building sparks online debate

In a video surfacing on social media, a four-storey house built on an extremely narrow plot, has raised serious concerns over its structural safety alongside urban planning violations. In the video, the building appears only a few feet wide and dangerously exposed to mishaps, especially as worsening weather heightens the risk of fire or collapse.

It was also found that such a structure would be deemed highly unsafe, especially during rescue operations as it has limited access due to its cramped construction. Netizens found themselves debating the clearance of such a project and whether stricter monitoring and enforcement by civic authorities is needed. **–BMB**

IN BRIEF

10-year-old killed in leopard attack

A leopard attack near the Nagamale forests of Male Mahadeshwara Hills in Chamarajanagar claimed the life of a 10-year-old boy hailing from Bengaluru on Sunday. The deceased, identified as Harshith, was visiting the Male Mahadeshwara Hills Temple with his family on Sunday morning when the tragedy took place.

It was found that the leopard dragged the boy after attacking him, and about half an hour later his blood-soaked body was discovered. Forest Department officials soon arrived at the spot and reported the incident to senior authorities. Locals say the attacks now pose a serious threat to devotees and residents. **–BMB**

Suicide linked to harassment by partner

A man died by suicide on Tuesday, allegedly after enduring prolonged mental harassment from his live-in partner. The 30-year-old victim was identified as C Thippeswamy from Chitradurga, who was living with Priyanka from Davanagere.

It was found that the woman was already married and had two kids, whom she abandoned to live with the victim in a rented home on KTG College Road in Hegganahalli. The duo claimed to be husband and wife in front of the landlord and lived at the house for almost two months.

The couple met on a social media platform and worked at the same garment factory where they developed a liking for each other. According to the victim's brother, Thippeswamy complained to him about mental harassment caused by Priyanka. After his death, Priyanka reportedly blocked the numbers of the victim's family members and acted suspiciously. In this regard, a case of abetment of suicide was lodged against her at the Rajagopal Nagar Police Station and investigation is underway. **–BMB**

AMITY UNIVERSITY BENGALURU

LAW

PROGRAMMES OFFERED
- B.A, LL.B (Hons)*
- LL.B (Hons)*
*(*Approved by BCI)*
- LL.M

To apply visit:
amity.edu/bengaluru
by: 16th May 2026
7303-399-000

The Amity Bengaluru Advantage
- Placements in leading entities such as SBI Mutual Fund, ICICI Lombard, Sheenlac Paints, Policy Bazaar, DCB Bank, Fractal Analytics, HiveMinds...
- Distinguished faculty comprising eminent visiting jurists & policy makers
- Regular visits to Courts, Lok Adalats, Tribunals, Jails, Forensics Labs and Police Stations
- Practical exposure through legal aid camps, pro-bono services, case presentations, moot court competitions, legal quiz...
- Centre for Research in Corporate Law & Entrepreneurial Practices
- Value-added courses such as foreign languages, specialized courses to enhance communication skills
- Eminent law experts visiting the campus include SC Judges, HC Judges, Lokayukta officials, Business Law Chamber Associates...

Amity University Bengaluru, NH 648, Devanahalli–Doddaballapur Rd, Bengaluru | E: admissions.blr@amity.edu

Harassment of women feeders sparks safety concerns

Following rising instances of mistreatment of women who feed community dogs, organisation requests police protection and strict action against welfare associations enabling abuse

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Kritika (name changed), a 26-year-old dog feeder from Yelahanka, has been allegedly living in fear for months. She says relentless verbal abuse and threats from neighbours, triggered by her efforts to care for community dogs, have made daily life increasingly difficult.

"Feeding stray animals out of compassion has earned me various titles in the neighbourhood, including 'prostitute'," said the IT professional, who has reportedly been subjected to months of verbal abuse for feeding dogs. Kritika said her health has deteriorated due to mental trauma, and she now feeds the animals late at night, only after all her neighbours are asleep.

Pragya (name changed), another community animal feeder and pet owner living in Chandapura, said she feels a constant sense of fear within her gated community.

"I, along with two other women animal feeders in a society of over a hundred families, have been harassed for nearly eight months now. Intimidated by these threats, we have filed multiple NCRs and FIRs at our nearest police station. However, these assaults continue," said Pragya.

Following many such incidents of verbal abuse and harassment meted out to women feeders in Bengaluru, a city-based animal welfare organisation has now approached the Department of Women and Child Development in Karnataka to highlight the plight of women animal feeders and seek support.

Women community dog feeders allege abuse, intimidation by neighbours

In a letter written to Laxmi R Hebbalkar, Karnataka Women and Child Welfare Minister, Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust has requested that the department take note of the bias and mistreatment directed towards women feeders and take corrective measures to uphold their rights.

In the letter, the organisation has requested protection for women feeders through the Bengaluru police, a formal government order establishing a special redressal mechanism for women feeders to submit their complaints, and strict action against residential welfare associations that carry out and facilitate harassment.

According to Sadhana Hegde, founder of Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust, women feeders, in Bengaluru and across Karnataka, who are going through relentless harassment in residential WhatsApp groups, are made to vacate houses, subjected to verbal abuse, and receive rape threats. In many cases, men or security guards stalk these feeders, take photos and videos in the name of flagging violations of dog feeding. In many places, the harassment is so severe that women feeders venture out for feeding between 1 am and 3 am.

"We have been managing over 500 feeders in Bengaluru and have been assisting with their cases daily. Out of them, 95 per cent are women. These feeders have been victims of harassment, name-calling, and intimidation, sometimes physical assault, for nearly four years now. This abuse has now become extreme, highly rampant, and daring since the SC order about stray dogs. However, when our women feeders go to the station to report cases, they are verbally abused, insulted, and sent back without filing cases," said Hegde.

For years, feeders have been facing harassment, name-calling, intimidation and occasional physical assault, which has escalated into rampant and brazen abuse following Supreme Court's order on stray dogs, says founder of Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust

Wrong destination and a Rs 7,000 bill: Woman shares cab ordeal

Passenger files complaint after cab driver allegedly attempts to take her to different destination, hands her fake bill

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

On April 23, an individual, identified as Kasturi Karuna, a resident of Vayunandana Layout, near Hebbal, booked a cab from a ride-hailing platform to Kempegowda International Airport for her flight to Bhubaneswar. "The fare shown on the Rapido app for this ride was Rs 688 and the booked cab registration was KA04AA8642. The yellow-plated cab with registration number KA04AE8200 drove up to the front of my tower, moving in real-time sync with what I was seeing on the app. The driver then stepped out and upon noticing me waiting with my luggage, asked me if I was Kasturi as per the booking and insisted that he was the driver of the cab that I had booked, cheating me by impersonation in the process," Karuna said in her complaint to Devanahalli police.

In her complaint, Karuna stated that she assumed the man was her booked cab driver since he knew her name; failing to notice the registration number mismatch, she shared the OTP to begin the ride, informed him the drop was at Terminal 1, and got into the cab.

"The driver then put the OTP into the app and the journey started. Approximately 40-50 minutes into the journey, after crossing what appeared to be the Kannamangala Palya railway crossing, I noticed that the surroundings did not seem in-line with the road to the airport. I opened the Rapido app to check my location, which is when I found out that the ride had been marked 'completed' by the driver at the pickup point itself and the payment was showing as Rs 0. I asked the driver where we were going, to which he replied that we were going to the Mysuru Airport. This was clearly wrong as the drop location which I had selected to book the ride on the Rapido app was the Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru," the complaint read.

According to the FIR registered at Devanahalli Police Station on May 3, Karuna told the driver to reroute and take her to the original destination. "The driver stated that he will have to complete the ongoing ride to Mysuru Airport and start a new ride to take me to the airport. He, while driving on the wrong side, showed me a fraudulent invoice of Rs 7,000, which was clearly not from the Rapido app," the complaint stated.

Devanahalli police have registered an FIR under the Sections 281, 308(2), 319(2), and 351(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023.

Speaking with Bangalore Mirror, Karuna reported that after falling victim to the serious scam, the only action taken by the company was suspension of the driver.

Citizens rally behind HAL airport, submit plea to PM

Civic volunteers submit memorandum seeking limited civilian operations at HAL Airport to improve urban mobility and ease growing airport commute challenges

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bengaluru on Sunday, residents and civic volunteers submitted a formal appeal seeking resumption of civilian flight operations at HAL Airport, citing growing traffic congestion and travel difficulties for citizens commuting to Kempegowda International Airport.

The memorandum was submitted by civic volunteer and resident representative Shachi Pathak along with fellow resident Anil during the Prime Minister's public address event at HAL Airport. Though residents could not meet the Prime Minister personally, the letters were handed over through MLA S Suresh Kumar of Rajajinagar and MLA CK Ramamurthy of Jayanagar, who assured the group that the representation would be forwarded to the Prime Minister's Office.

HAL Airport served as Bengaluru's main airport for several decades before commercial operations ended in 2008 after Kempegowda International Airport opened at Devanahalli. In the letter addressed to the Prime Minister, residents highlighted Bengaluru's rapid urban growth and challenges arising from dependence on a single operational airport located on the city's northern outskirts.

"Bengaluru has grown into one of India's most important economic and technological hubs, with millions of residents depending on efficient urban infrastructure and connectivity," the letter stated.

HAL revival could significantly improve Bengaluru's urban mobility

The representation noted that commuting to Kempegowda International Airport often takes two to four hours due to heavy congestion, resulting in missed flights, increased travel costs, stress, and loss of productive time. Senior citizens, families with children, business travellers, and medical passengers were identified as the most affected.

Residents urged the Centre to consider reopening HAL Airport for limited civilian operations, especially for domestic and regional flights. The memorandum stated that the centrally located airport already has aviation infrastructure capable of supporting short-haul connectivity, business travel, and emergency aviation services.

"The reopening of HAL Airport for limited civilian operations would provide significant relief to Bengaluru residents and improve overall urban mobility," Shachi wrote.

The memorandum also drew comparisons with Hindon Airport in the National Capital Region, where civilian operations function alongside an Air Force base, suggesting a similar dual-use model for HAL Airport. Pathak said multiple global metropolitan cities successfully operate more than one airport and added that Bengaluru would benefit from a dual-airport framework.

> **"Conduct feasibility assessment for civilian operations at HAL Airport, explore dual-airport framework, consult aviation, defence, state agencies and citizens, and consider phased domestic and regional connectivity services**
> – Shachi Pathak: Civic volunteer and resident representative

"Conduct feasibility assessment for civilian operations at HAL Airport, explore dual-airport framework, consult aviation, defence, state agencies and citizens, and consider phased domestic and regional connectivity services," Pathak said.

The letter added that this initiative would be welcomed by Bengaluru residents and significantly improve transportation efficiency and urban life.

Vehicles to use Peenya Flyover from next month

The Peenya Flyover on Tumakuru Road has been declared structurally sound after successfully clearing load testing, paving the way for unrestricted movement of all vehicle types seven days a week from June.

The flyover, located on National Highway-4 in Peenya, developed structural issues in December 2021 when two cables between pillars 102 and 103 near the 8th Mile junction bent under heavy vehicular load. Following this, the contracting firm carried out strengthening work, replacing 240 cables initially and later upgrading all 1,200 cables across the structure. A detailed load test conducted from May 5 involved six trucks of 30-ton capacity each. Dial gauge measurements monitored the bridge over a 24-hour cycle to assess performance. Experts verified the results and confirmed the bridge's load-bearing stability, stating that the 4.2 km-long flyover has regained full structural safety and will soon allow seamless traffic flow. At present, all vehicles except heavy vehicles are allowed on flyover.

— BMB

Civic drive clears choked footpaths

A special drive launched by the Bengaluru East City Corporation to remove footpath and roadside encroachments across multiple wards to improve pedestrian safety and ease traffic congestion wrapped up on Sunday.

Additional Commissioner Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar said growing encroachments by shops, pushcarts, temporary structures, construction materials, and advertisement boards have forced pedestrians on roads, creating safety risks and traffic bottlenecks. The drive that began on April 27 covered Hoodi, Kadugodi, and Ramamurthy Nagar divisions, clearing stalls, illegal parking, shop extensions, and other obstructions.

Dedicated teams of marshals, labourers, tractors, and JCB machines were deployed under ward engineers and assistant executive engineers. Upcoming operations are scheduled in Doddanekundi, Horamavu, Vijnanapura, Varthur, and KR Puram divisions. Officials urged traders and residents to voluntarily remove encroachments and warned of strict action against violators. — BMB

SWR regularises 18 train services

The South Western Railway has converted 18 special trains operating on 9 routes into train services, bringing relief to passengers who were paying nearly 30 % higher fares on special trains. Special trains are usually introduced for three or six months to assess passenger demand, after which they are either regularised or discontinued. Following concerns over delays in implementation and disruption in services after the temporary withdrawal of special trains in March, railway authorities have now officially regularised these services.

The converted trains include routes such as SSS Hubballi-Vijayapura, KSR-Channapatna, KSR Bengaluru-Ashokapuram, SMVT Bengaluru-Bangarpet, Yesvantpur-Hindupur, KSR Bengaluru-Hassan, and Yesvantpur-Talaguppa. Officials said the trains will continue operating with the same schedules followed earlier under the special category. Railway activists welcomed the move, saying it will reduce travel costs and provide relief to passengers. — BMB

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Road neglect
Brunton Road

Crossroads on Brunton Road remain in severely neglected condition, with damaged stretches causing inconvenience and raising concerns over civic maintenance.

Health hazard
Koramangala

Waterlogging at multiple spots in ST Bed Layout, Koramangala, is triggering mosquito breeding and raising serious health concerns.

Urban failure
Sanjaynagar

Roads near the BWSSB office in Sanjaynagar remain badly damaged, causing inconvenience and reflecting poor civic upkeep.

Advocate's account unfrozen after transaction proved to be legal fees

The Karnataka High Court has ordered the de-freezing of a practising advocate's bank account after accepting her explanation that the money transferred to her by a client accused in a cheating case was received as professional legal fees.

Justice M Nagaprasanna passed the order while hearing a petition filed by advocate Kanchan Srinivasan, whose account had been frozen during the course of a cybercrime investigation.

The police had directed the bank to place a debit freeze on the account after identifying transactions between Srinivasan and a person accused of offences including cheating and violations under the Information Technology Act.

Before the court, the advocate contended that the amount in question — around Rs 3 lakh — had been paid towards legal services rendered to the accused client. Her counsel submitted supporting documents to show that the payment was a legitimate professional fee and had been properly accounted for.

The court had earlier sought clarification from the prosecution on how the advocate's account could be frozen in the absence of material directly linking her to the alleged offences.

During the hearing, the State informed the court that apart from the transfer of the legal fee, there was no evidence connecting Srinivasan to the alleged crime.

Taking note of the submission, the bench observed that there was insufficient material to justify the continued freezing of the account.

The court consequently directed the investigating officer to instruct the bank to lift the freeze within a week. The petition was accordingly disposed of.

HIGH COURT

'Land ownership not firearm licence condition'

The Karnataka High Court has ruled that ownership of agricultural land cannot be made a mandatory condition for renewing a firearm licence under the Arms Act. The court observed that such a requirement has no basis in law and cannot be imposed by licensing authorities while considering renewal applications.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj passed the order while allowing a petition filed by a firearm licence holder whose renewal request had been rejected on the ground that he no longer possessed agricultural land. Authorities had argued that the licence had originally been granted for protection of agricultural property and therefore could not continue once the land was no longer owned by the applicant.

The petitioner challenged the decision, contending that the Arms Act does not prescribe ownership of farmland as a prerequisite for renewal of a valid firearm licence. He further argued that once a licence is granted, its renewal can only be denied on grounds specifically mentioned under Section 14 of the Arms Act.

Accepting the contention, the High Court held that the licensing authority cannot introduce additional conditions that are absent in the statute.

The court noted that the law clearly lays down the circumstances under which a licence may be refused or cancelled, and loss of agricultural property is not one of them.

The bench also emphasised that administrative authorities must act strictly within the framework of the Arms Act and cannot rely on assumptions or unwritten policies while deciding renewal applications. Accordingly, the court set aside the endorsement rejecting the renewal request and directed the authorities to reconsider the petitioner's application in accordance with law.

BM Finance Fundas

 # The Rs 10 per litre central excise cut on petrol and diesel, taken at significant cost to the exchequer, should be progressively rolled back in tranches over six to nine months as crude prices stabilise
— Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

Personal loan mistakes that could cost you more

Most personal loans cost more than they should. Not because of bad luck — because of avoidable mistakes made before signing. Here's exactly what to get right.

Loan amount: First EMI decision you make

Banks will often approve more than you need. Taking the extra feels like a cushion — it's actually a trap. Your EMI is directly proportional to the loan amount — borrow less, pay less, always. List every expense the loan needs to cover before you apply, not after. You cannot reduce the loan amount once it's disbursed — this decision is irreversible.

Mind the rate gap

2 per cent difference in interest rate on a Rs 5 lakh, 5-year loan = Rs 27,000 + extra paid. Shop for a rate like it's your money — because it is. Even a small rate cut saves you more than you think.

Lower EMI, higher total

Loan tenure is the lever most borrowers ignore — and the one that quietly doubles your interest bill.

Longer tenure = lower monthly EMI, but significantly more total interest paid over the loan's life.

Shorter tenure = higher EMI, but you pay far less to the bank overall.

Use an EMI calculator before you decide — run both scenarios side by side. Choose the shortest tenure your monthly budget can genuinely absorb.

Bad credit score could overcharge you

Lenders price interest rates based on risk. A low score = higher rate = you subsidise the bank's uncertainty about you.

Clear all existing EMIs and credit card dues before applying for a new loan. Every missed payment dents your score — set up auto-debit so you never forget. A new loan application triggers a hard inquiry: expect a 5–10 point temporary dip. Higher score unlocks better rates — same income, same loan, cheaper deal.

Loan to repay loan: Stupid or smart?

Debt consolidation only works if the math works. Here's the honest check. Do it if the new loan has a significantly lower interest rate and your total cost of borrowing — after fees — actually drops. Skip it if the rate difference is marginal, or the processing fees, prepayment penalties, and taxes eat the savings.

Hidden costs and add-ons

The headline rate looks good. Then the add-ons arrive. Processing fee (typically 1–3 per cent of the loan amount, charged upfront and non-refundable), prepayment penalty (most banks allow early repayment only after 12 months and charge a fee — read this clause carefully), late payment charges (miss one EMI and the penalty compounds your cost immediately), insurance add-ons (loan protection insurance is worth considering for large amounts — but make sure it's optional, not bundled in).

Missing EMIs costs more than money

Late payment triggers immediate penalty charges — your next EMI becomes more expensive. Every missed payment is reported to credit bureaus and lowers your score for years. Set up auto-debit from your salary account — make repayment automatic, not optional. Ask your bank to send SMS reminders 3 days before the due date — this one habit protects your credit history.

Before you sign anything, 5 checks in 5 minutes:

- Is this loan genuinely necessary — or is it convenience spending?
- Have you compared at least 3 lenders on rate, tenure and total fees?
- Does the EMI fit within 40 per cent of your monthly take-home income?
- Have you read the prepayment and foreclosure clause word for word?
- Is your credit score in the best shape it can be before you apply?

Govt working on FTA utilisation plan to maximise benefits for businesses

With India signing a series of free trade agreements with developed countries, the government is working on an FTA utilisation plan to help maximise benefits from these pacts, an official said. Since 2021, India has finalised free trade agreements (FTAs) with Mauritius, Australia, the UAE, Oman, New Zealand, the EFTA (European Free Trade Association), the European Union (EU), the UK and US. These pacts cover 38 countries whose combined global imports stand at about USD 12 trillion.

The main Indian sectors that have received duty-free market access in these FTA partner countries include agriculture, textiles and apparel, gems and jewellery, leather and leather goods, engineering, electronics, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has held a series of meetings with industry associations, businesses and export promotion councils (EPCs) on ways to increase utilisation of these agreements. He suggested that businesses leverage these pacts to boost exports and domestic manufacturing. The official added that the minister on May 4 held a review meeting with key officers and chief negotiators to asses the progress of India's free trade acts.

Another meeting on May 7, was held on preparing a roadmap for obtaining sanitary and phytosanitary (related to plants and animals) approvals for Indian agricultural and fisheries products across global markets. The commerce ministry has involved Indian missions abroad in the exercise. Besides, all the line ministries are part of the process, the official said.

The role of Indian missions includes ensuring FTA awareness in importing country, market intelligence on new opportunities, and expediting resolution of non-tariff barriers. **PTI**

SBI
The banker to every Indian
BANKING PRODUCTS AND SERVICES AS EXCEPTIONAL AS YOU
Solutions and processes inspired by your needs and aspirations
BATTING FOR NARI SHAKTI
#BattingForNariShakti
Home Loans | Education Loans
Stand-Up India Loans
MSME Digital Loans and more...
To be a part of the SBI family, visit: bank.sbi
For assistance, call 1800 1234 | 2100
Follow us on
T&C Apply

Where Bengaluru meets books and quiet mornings

Silent reading ritual at Cubbon Park continues drawing hundreds every Saturday, creating rare public space for reflection, connection, and uninterrupted reading

| Vasudha Zora
c-vasudha.sinha
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

KAUSHIK JN

When the hustle and bustle get too hard, it is time for a reset, and Bengaluru readers have taken it a step further. Every Saturday morning, with no noisy announcements, banners, sign-up desks, or organisers calling out instructions, a quiet ritual unfolds under the majestic trees of Cubbon Park. Cubbon Reads began in January 2023 when Shruti Sah and Harsh Snehanshu cycled to the park with mats, fruits, and books, and sat reading till their heart's delight. Friends soon joined them, prompting them to create an Instagram page and open the initiative to the city's avid readers.

"We literally saw our community grow from 2-3 people to 30 people in two months. It was then that we created an Instagram reel documenting this weekly ritual, and suddenly the community exploded. Within a week, we had 300 people join us to read together. We stopped counting long back," said one of the volunteers.

What began as a small gathering now attracts hundreds of readers near the bandstand every Saturday, and the community has not missed a single week. "Come rain or shine, or even festivals, we have had people joining us. Our volunteers keep the initiative running uninterrupted," said one of the founders.

Readers arrive anytime between 9 am and 11 am, spread their mats under shade or winter sunshine, open their books, and simply read. Many snack on oranges and apples while immersing themselves in stories, surrounded by nature and stillness. Around 12.30 pm, everyone gathers under Tree 3265, a giant peepal tree, without announcement. They stack their books for a group photo, helping newcomers connect and discover diverse genres and languages.

"The tactileness of this activity coupled with poor phone signal ensures we are pulled into this lull of reconnecting with oneself and one's reading habit, while also sharing warmth with like-minded people. Many feel much more productive to kickstart their week from Saturday now instead of Monday," shared a volunteer.

The community includes readers of fiction, nonfiction, academic books, newspapers, and even love letters. "So many people choose to read in their mother tongues like Bengali, Tamil, Kannada, Hebrew, French and so on. Cubbon Reads has become a playground for people to discover books they may not have earlier heard of," said a volunteer. The gathering is open to all ages and professions, from engineers and artists to retirees and toddlers. Some paint, practice needlework, or simply nap on the grass.

> **"The tactileness of this activity coupled with poor phone signal ensures we are pulled into this lull of reconnecting with oneself and one's reading habit** – Volunteer

To preserve its silent ethos, Cubbon Reads avoids brand collaborations. "We don't see the value in having brands and collaborations because Cubbon Reads is a silent reading community and we want to maintain this silence both offline and online. This is a sacrosanct philosophy we will live by," said a volunteer.

Founder Shruti noted that many women come alone and feel safe. "Which other community in this city can boast about this? Having an army of readers around you automatically feels safe," she said.

In a city with negotiating space, safety, and access, Cubbon Reads quietly offers both questions and solutions, showing how public spaces become safer and more democratic when citizens use them with intent.

Security tightened after gelatin found near venue

Two gelatin sticks were discovered on Sunday during a routine security inspection near Tataguni in Kaggalipura police limits on Bengaluru's outskirts, close to a route linked to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit. The recovery was made along a roadside footpath near Agara Lake, around three kilometres from the main venue at the Art of Living International Centre. The discovery triggered an immediate security response involving police, bomb disposal squads, and forensic experts. One individual has been detained for questioning as investigators probe the origin and intent behind the explosive material's presence. Authorities intensified security checks in surrounding areas as a precautionary measure following the recovery.

PM Modi at the Art of Living event

During his visit marking the 45th foundation year of the Art of Living Foundation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised its contribution to spirituality, service, and social transformation. He highlighted Bengaluru's rise as both a global technology hub and a centre of cultural and spiritual growth, inaugurated a new meditation hall at the campus, and called for stronger efforts in environmental protection, natural farming, water and energy conservation, and reduction of single-use plastic.

— BMB

KAUSHIK JN

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

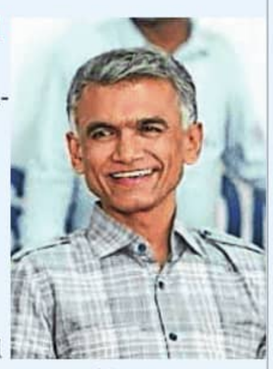
Simian haircut

In a rare and amusing incident from Santhemarahalli in Chamarajanagar district, a barber gave a haircut to a monkey that had become a regular visitor to his salon. The monkey reportedly visited every day, often sitting quietly and staring at itself in the mirror, drawing curiosity among locals. Salon owner Devaraj initially tried to chase it away, but it kept returning to the shop. Last week, he gently combed the monkey's hair and, to everyone's surprise, the animal calmly bent its head like a customer waiting for grooming. Devaraj then styled its hair as amused customers watched and one recorded the unusual moment on video, making it an instant sensation.

Thorat collapses

During last week's cabinet meeting, former UGC chairman Sukhdev Thorat, tasked with preparing state education policy, was invited to present his report. During the session, he suddenly felt exhausted and collapsed. IAS officer Dr Vishal, also a doctor, immediately attended to him. He was given fruit juice, and doctors were later called for emergency treatment. After recovering, Thorat resumed and completed his presentation, allowing the meeting to continue smoothly as officials expressed relief over his quick recovery and praised prompt medical attention at the venue.

Failure lesson



Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda candidly recalled his academic setback while addressing a felicitation programme for students and teachers who excelled in SSLC and II PUC examinations in Hassan. He said he failed his II PU examination because of laziness and had no hesitation admitting it publicly. Sharing his journey, he later realised his mistake, worked hard, cleared the examination and eventually passed his degree in first class before pursuing higher studies abroad. Emphasising self-discipline and perseverance, he told students that individuals are responsible for both failures and successes. He urged them to stay focused, learn from mistakes and work sincerely to achieve academic and professional goals in future life.

Team lapse

Owning up to BJP's bypoll setback, Union Minister V Somanna admitted that lack of teamwork cost the party dearly. He told reporters the party had failed to uphold the message of putting the nation above all, a principle stressed by national leadership. Instead of shifting blame, he included himself in accountability and said leaders should have sat together and made better decisions. He added that the party would learn from mistakes, correct its course and work with greater unity in future.

Senior-most CM

At 77, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has quietly become the country's oldest serving Chief Minister following Pinarayi Vijayan's exit from Kerala, where he held the distinction at 82. This shift places Siddaramaiah at the top of a closely packed list of senior leaders, with N Chandrababu Naidu at 75 and others in their mid-70s. While this makes for an interesting political footnote, it adds to Siddaramaiah's growing list of records and reflects his long innings in Karnataka politics. The contrast remains sharp with much younger leaders like Pema Khandu in Arunachal Pradesh, highlighting generational differences in leadership.

Classroom to assembly

Babar Ali, the educationist from Murshidabad in West Bengal whose story is part of Karnataka's PU syllabus, has entered the state Assembly after winning Jalangi constituency on a Trinamool Congress ticket. Known for teaching street children from age nine in his backyard, he later built a school that now educates over 2,000 underprivileged and orphaned children. His work earned recognition across states, including lecture tours in Karnataka and a BBC documentary that described him as the world's youngest headmaster.

— Sridhar Vivan

Bhuvneshwar picks 4-23, Krunal's knock only highlight

Not all games are run-rakers

1. Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Indian cricket player Krunal Pandya plays a shot; 2. Mumbai Indians' Indian cricket player Tilak Varma (R) celebrates after scoring a half-century; 3. Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Bhuvneshwar Kumar delivers a ball during the match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Mumbai Indians at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium in Raipur on Sunday

Given the nature of Raipur pitch, Royal Challengers Bengaluru struggled to chase the modest total of 166 set up by Mumbai Indians' innings in their Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 clash at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium on Sunday. Krunal Pandya kept his head about him to steer his team steadily towards the target.

A vintage new-ball spell from Bhuvneshwar Kumar and a composed half-century by Tilak Varma defined contrasting phases of the earlier.

After RCB skipper Rajat Patidar opted to bowl first on a surface with visible cracks and uneven bounce, Bhuvneshwar exploited the conditions brilliantly to leave Mumbai reeling inside the Powerplay. The veteran seamer struck in the very first over when Ryan Rickelton miscued an attempted lofted drive to mid-off, setting the tone for a disciplined opening burst.

Mumbai briefly counterattacked through Rohit Sharma, who took on Josh Hazlewood with two sixes and a boundary in an 18-run second over. Rohit looked intent on disrupting RCB's lengths, but Bhuvneshwar responded with experience and variation.

A clever knuckleball induced a thick edge from Rohit for 22, before Suryakumar Yadav's much-anticipated return lasted just one ball as he edged to Virat Kohli at first slip. From 22/1, MI suddenly slipped to 28/3, with Bhuvneshwar narrowly missing out on a hat-trick.

On a tricky batting surface where stroke-making never appeared straightforward, Tilak Varma and Naman Dhir steadied the innings with a valuable rebuilding partnership. The pair rotated strike smartly through the middle overs while punishing the occasional loose delivery. Tilak looked assured against spin, especially while taking on Krunal Pandya and Suyash Sharma, while Naman used the pace of the ball effectively, square of the wicket.

RCB's fielding, however, briefly let Mumbai off the hook. Tilak survived a regulation chance at mid-wicket when Suyash Sharma failed to hold onto a top edge, and a misfield from Romario Shepherd handed away another boundary. The missed opportunities allowed MI to gradually regain momentum.

Naman, who mixed innovation with controlled aggression, appeared set for a half-century before Rasikh Salam Dar produced a crucial breakthrough in the 13th over. The pacer deceived him with a skiddy back-of-a-length delivery that crashed into the stumps, ending a fighting 47 off 32 balls.

Tilak continued to anchor the innings from the other end and brought up a well-crafted fifty with a late cut off Rasikh. He accelerated effectively in the death overs, including a towering slog sweep against Suyash and a straight boundary off Bhuvneshwar, but his dismissal in the 18th over proved a major turning point. Attempting a scoop against Bhuvneshwar, Tilak dragged the ball back onto his stumps for a 42-ball 57.

Bhuvneshwar finished with outstanding figures of 4-23, becoming only the second bowler after Harshal Patel to register six three-wicket hauls in a single IPL season. RCB also closed the innings strongly through Hazlewood and Rasikh, restricting Mumbai to just 31 runs in the final five overs.

–IANS

Urvil hits record-equaling 13-ball 50 as Chennai beats Lucknow

Urvil Patel hit a record-equalling 13-ball 50 in the Indian Premier League and Shivam Dube smashed two sixes in the final over of the match as Chennai Super Kings beat Lucknow Super Giants by five wickets on Sunday.

Patel was out for 65 runs off 23 deliveries, including eight sixes, in a high-scoring game where both teams topped 200.

Patel scored his first IPL half-century as Chennai finished with 208-5 in 19.2 overs in reply to Lucknow's 203-8.

Yashasvi Jaiswal hit a 13-ball IPL 50 for Rajasthan Royals against Kolkata Knight Riders in 2023.

Impact player Prashant Veer survived two dropped catches, hitting 17 not out off 12 balls with two sixes, while Dube held his nerve in the final over when Chennai needed 10 off six balls.

Earlier, Jamie Overton took 3-36 in four overs. Josh Inglis hit 85 off 33 to wage a lone top-order battle, while Shahbaz Ahmed helped Lucknow post a challenging target.

It was a sixth win for five-time champion Chennai in 11 games – and third straight – as it rose to fifth in the points' table, trailing leader Sunrisers Hyderabad by only two points. For Lucknow, it was an eighth loss in 11 games and it stayed bottom of the table.

Put into bat, Lucknow started well despite losing Mitchell Marsh (10) early.

Inglis hit a first half-century for his new team – off only 17 balls. It was Inglis' fastest half-century in his T20 career, and overall he hit six sixes and 10 fours as Lucknow scored 91-1 in the powerplay.

But Nicholas Pooran was caught for one off Noor Ahmad. Overton then dismissed Inglis and skipper Rishabh Pant (15) across four balls in the 10th over.

Lucknow slipped to 115-4 after that double strike, and 147-6 in 14.2 overs. Aiden Markram (6) was run out and Akshat Raghuwanshi (18) was caught off Overton.

Ahmed counter-attacked with 43 not out off 25 balls, hitting three sixes and three fours.

Lucknow almost defended the total but was let down by dropped catches and poor death bowling.

Sanju Samson hit 28 off 14 with two sixes and three fours to start off the chase as Chennai scored 97-1 in the powerplay.

Patel and skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad (42) added 81 off 34 balls for the second wicket.

Patel raced to his half-century, hitting seven sixes, as Chennai looked to win in a hurry.

1. Chennai Super Kings' Urvil Patel celebrates after scoring a half-century during the match between Chennai Super Kings and Lucknow Super Giants, at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai, on Sunday;
2. Players exchange handshakes after the match

LSG	203/8 (20)
CSK	208/5 (19.2)

Ahmed struck back with the ball too, dismissing both set batters in the space of three overs as Chennai slipped to 149-3 in 12.5 overs.

It was still ahead of the asking rate, and the middle order kept pushing for runs but Kartik Sharma (20) and Dewald Brevis (10) couldn't convert their starts.

Wrist spinner Digvesh Rathi took 2-45 but dropped two catches, while Pooran dropped one. Veer was dropped twice in the penultimate over bowled by Avesh Khan.

With 30 needed off the last three overs, Veer and Dube saw Chennai home. It was Chennai's first successful 200-plus chase since 2018.

–AP

Today's battle
Punjab Kings
vs
Delhi Capitals
7.30 PM Dharamshala

HIGHLIGHTS

Ashwin heaps praise on Sooryavanshi

India spin great R Ashwin wants to see teen sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi play all three formats for the national team.

Opening for the Rajasthan Royals, the Sooryavanshi has continued to carve a fearless reputation, taking on the best with remarkable ease in the ongoing IPL season.

"He is taking every bowler down. I wouldn't mind watching him in a Test match, and I wouldn't mind watching him in all three formats of the game. Get him onto cricket grounds, get people coming along, because he is going to entertain you.

"He is leaving no stone unturned, putting every ounce of force he can into the cricket ball. The way he played, even in the U-19 World Cup final, putting everything together, he is looking like a box-office player.

"There are very few windows in your cricketing career where you can absolutely enjoy your cricket, and he is only 15 years old. I think we should just let him be," Ashwin said on JioStar.

–PTI

'Bowlers have to develop their range of skills'

Rajasthan Royals (RR) bowling coach Shane Bond admitted his side's bowlers must evolve and think outside the box after another disappointing performance with the ball during their 77-run defeat to the Gujarat Titans in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026.

Rajasthan endured yet another difficult outing at Sawai Mansingh Stadium on Saturday as Gujarat piled up 229/4 before bowling the hosts out for 152 in 16.3 overs. It marked the fourth consecutive match in which Rajasthan conceded more than 200 runs, highlighting their ongoing struggles with the ball.

Speaking after the game, Bond expressed frustration over his side's inability to adapt under pressure.

"We just haven't played well enough in conditions that we know. We've been outplayed by our opposition," Bond said in the post-match press conference.

"I look at bowlers, they just have to be better, right? You've got to think a bit outside the box. There are two things: decision-making and execution. I think tonight, you would have probably noticed that execution just wasn't consistent enough for long enough," he added.

Bond also pointed to the rapidly evolving nature of T20 batting, saying bowlers must continue developing new skills to survive in modern cricket.

–IANS

877 cases against tampered number plates during special drive

The Bengaluru Traffic Police have booked 877 cases against vehicles using tampered, fancy, defective and non standard registration plates between May 7 to May 9.

During the special drive, officials made it clear that number plates are meant solely for vehicle identification and not for other purposes like decoration.

The traffic police officials have urged motorists to comply with the traffic norms and to use legally approved registration plates moving forward.

Authorities have put strict enforcement systems in place against unauthorised number plates to ensure accountability and road safety. **BMB**

EC has become partisan: Prashant Bhushan at Bengaluru seminar

Eminent lawyer Prashant Bhushan on Sunday alleged that the EC had become a completely partisan institution and accused it of using the SIR exercise to "selectively exclude" minorities and weaker sections from electoral rolls.

Speaking at a public seminar on 'Delimitation, Women's Reservation Bill and Special Intensive Revision' in Bengaluru, Bhushan said the electoral process, functioning of the Election Commission, delimitation exercise, and implementation of the Women's Reservation Bill posed "serious challenges to India's democracy and federal structure."

"Today, we have a completely partisan Election Commission. It is effectively the BJP deciding who remains on the voters' list and who does not," Bhushan claimed. **PTI**

Here today, gone tomorrow infra in city

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Residents of Kammanahalli, Banaswadi, Frazer Town and Baiyappanahalli will be impacted by demolition of IOC Junction Flyover

around 2001-02 at a cost of approximately ₹6 crore by Indian Railways and the then Bangalore Mahanagara Palike.

Officials now say the flyover cannot handle current traffic volumes, particularly after the opening of the Sir M Visvesvaraya Terminal (SMVT) railway station. However, mobility experts say the situation reflects a recurring pattern in Bengaluru where infrastructure is built without accounting for future Metro corridors, railway expansion or long-term traffic growth.

Krishna P, a resident of Bannerghatta Road, said, "The city has already witnessed similar reversals. The Jayadeva flyover, once projected as a landmark traffic solution in South Bengaluru, was demolished between 2019 and 2020 to make way for Namma Metro Phase II. The flyover cost nearly ₹21 crore to construct after delays and price escalation.

Alongside it, an underpass costing another ₹10.3 crore was also built. Ironically, while the flyover was demolished within roughly 15 years, the underpass continues to function, raising uncomfortable questions about whether the original design lacked long-term coordination with future transport planning."

Santhosh Nanda, a resident of JP Nagar added, "The Dalmia Circle flyover in JP Nagar has a similar story. Opened only in March 2018 after more than two-and-a-half years of construction, the ₹25-26 crore structure is now slated for demolition for Namma Metro Phase III's proposed double-decker corridor between JP Nagar and Hebbal."

Initially, Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) explored preserving the flyover by building a viaduct above it. But the proposal was eventually abandoned in favour of a larger integrated road-cum-rail corridor.

Taken together, Bengaluru has already spent over ₹62 crore constructing these three flyovers alone. With the IOC rotary replacement project now estimated at ₹436 crore, the cumulative replacement burden linked to these structures has crossed ₹500 crore. And that figure reflects only direct construction expenditure.

"The hidden costs are far larger. Years of demolition and reconstruction bring traffic diversions, fuel wastage, lost productivity, delayed emergency response movement and severe economic losses for businesses operating around construction zones. There are environmental consequences as well.

Demolition activity releases enormous quantities of concrete dust and particulate matter into already polluted urban corridors. Residents near such projects often complain of respiratory distress, noise pollution, vibrations affecting old buildings, cracks in nearby structures and deteriorating air quality," said Shylaja P, a green activist. Experts also warn that poorly managed debris disposal can choke stormwater drains, lakes and low-lying areas if construction waste is not scientifically recycled.

At IOC Junction, residents from Kammanahalli, Banaswadi, Frazer Town and Baiyappanahalli are expected to face prolonged congestion once demolition begins. Traffic police are already preparing diversion plans to manage the anticipated bottlenecks.

Reassess flyover obsession

Urban infrastructure experts say Bengaluru's flyover-centric planning model itself requires urgent reassessment.

"Bengaluru must move away from piecemeal flyover construction and adopt corridor-based mobility planning. Before approving any new flyover, agencies should conduct integrated studies involving Metro expansion, suburban rail, bus systems, pedestrian movement and projected population growth for at least the next three decades. Otherwise, the city risks repeating the same cycle of building expensive structures today only to demolish them tomorrow," Jagadish Manjunath, an architect, said.

Another mobility planner said the city is confusing infrastructure quantity with infrastructure quality. "What Bengaluru needs is not more isolated flyovers, but a unified mobility blueprint. Infrastructure decisions must survive changes in traffic patterns, Metro expansion and urban growth. Without that, the city will continue spending hundreds of crores correcting yesterday's engineering decisions," Vasudev Raja, a civil engineer, added.

"Demolition activity releases enormous quantities of concrete dust and particulate matter into already polluted urban corridors. Residents near such projects often complain of respiratory distress, noise pollution, vibrations affecting old buildings, cracks in nearby structures and deteriorating air quality

Drop in environment-related offences questioned

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

City-based experts express doubt over the drop in the number of environment-related offences and say the data does not add up to a complete and clear picture of environment-related crime in Bengaluru or across the state.

"Although Bengaluru has registered the highest number of crimes under the Forest and Forest Conservation Act, 15 is a very small number, indicating either some numbers have fallen through cracks, or these Acts or rules are not being taken seriously by authorities. Zero crime reported under the Water and Air Acts further proves the point. All water bodies in the city are receiving pollution load every day, and noise pollution norms are being flouted every minute. Moreover, environment-related offenses of 2024 have minimal significance in 2026," said an environmentalist.

As per the data, Karnataka, with 1,214 environment-related offences, has grabbed the fifth spot after Tamil Nadu (26,475 offences), Rajasthan (10,824 offences), Kerala (9,143 offences), and Maharashtra (6,735 environment-related offences).

As many as 74 cases were recorded under the Forest Act and the Forest Conservation Act across the state, and 1,139 cases under the Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003.

However, the rate of environmental offences, crime per one lakh of population, remained low (1.8) in Karnataka in 2024.

Court disposal of environment-related cases shows that by the end of 2024, 62 percent of the total environment-related cases (1,959) in the state were still pending conviction. While 3,153 environment cases, including cases pending trials from the previous year, reached court for trial, as many as 1,194 were disposed of.

India scenario

According to NCRB data, during 2024, a total of 57,670 cases were registered under environment-related offences as compared to 68,994 cases in the year 2023, showing a decrease of 16.4 percent. Crime head-wise cases revealed that the cases registered under the Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), with 80.3 percent (46,333 cases), were the highest, followed by the Noise Pollution Acts with 15 percent.

Your Connect

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

OTHER VACANCIES

GENERAL

REQUIRED FOR OFFICE IN CHICKBALLAPUR & YELAHANKA
1. Accountant - 3 to 5 Years of Experiance
2. Store Incharge - 5 Years Experiance
3. Fresher - Any degree
Salary will be based on their Expertise and Talent.
Interested then send your CV to
9035312596

WORK FROM HOME

EXCELLENT INCOME TOP MNC in BANGALORE Hiring Rtd Govt, Pvt, Defence, HNI, Bank, Teacher, VRS, NRI, IT, CA, Sr.CITIZEN, HOUSEWIFE Age 30-70 9845673443 8073400868

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

BTM LAYOUT

BTM 2nd Stage 29th Main East Facing 40x72 Semi-Commercial Property for Immediate Sale Price 34 k Call Prakash Estate: 8095657052. 9845066124

JP NAGAR

FOR Sale: Maratt Pimento High end Designer appartment, 4500 sft built up, 4 BHK, 4 car park with all amenities, Opp Vega city mall, Bannerghatta Road Price Rs 8.5 Cr Pl call. whatsapp V3 Group 9945695313, 9901999995

SARJAPUR ROAD

FOR Sale 2906 sft plot in Prestige City, Sarjapur Road , High end gated community, Price rs 16000/ sft Call. whatsapp V3 group. 9945695313, 9901999995

WHITEFIELD

WHITEFIELD...CLOSE to HopeFarm circle West facing, G Floor 1175 sqft Flat for sale a @85 lacs.Pls Call 9845145160 Easthood properties

WHITEFIELD...CLOSE to HopeFarm circle West facing, G Floor 1175 sqft Flat for sale a @85 lacs.Pls Call 9845145160 Easthood properties

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

LEASE & RENT

FLAT 3BHK Rent 1650sft Semi Furnished all Fittings Modular Kitchen 2 Carparks at Canopy Cologne Apartment Haines Road Frazer Town 9449165578

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Eshwar Raghu R/o No 16/3 National Highschool Road V V Puram Basavanagudi Have changed my name to Eshwar Shadakshari Raghu

I Swati Aditya Hegde r/o A1704, Keya Around the Life, SY No 90, Chaitanya Ananya Layout, Kadugodi, Hosakote Road, Seegehalli, Kannamangala Post, Bengaluru 560067. I have changed my name from Swati Bhat to Swati Aditya Hegde for all purposes vide affidavit dt 09.05.2026 sworn before Notary at Bengaluru.

I Shanta R/o No 1727 Basava Nilaya 4th Blk BDA Doddabasti SMV Lyt Blore-56 Have changed my name to Shanta Gurubasayya Math.

I Reesu Devi W/o Ravi Gandiboiena, Josh Elite Flat No 004 Bethal Nagar 1st Main Road, Ayyappa Nagar, Krishnarajapuram, Bangalore 560036. Karnataka have changed my name and shall here after be known as Gandiboiena Devi for all purposes

Bennett & Coleman
THE TIMES OF INDIA

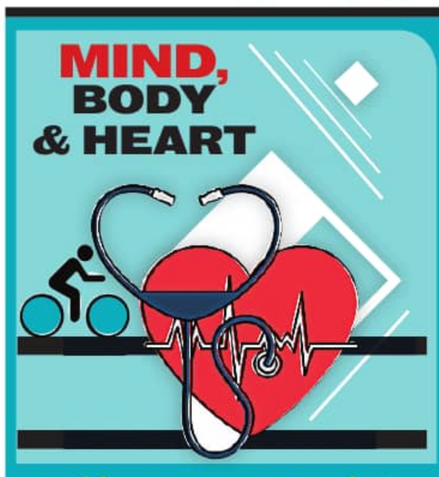
Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. All creatives marked as Advertorial, Spotlight and Promotional Features are to be treated as Advertisements. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of the products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and the owners of The Times of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

GALLERIA

Nirmala Travels® Presents
Ph No. 0824 2497051/54, 9663518877, 9663528877, 9686687771/2/3/4
visit us @ www.nirmalatravels.com
TRICHY RAMESHWARAM KANYAKUMARI 5 / 7* DAYS
MAY: 16, 21, 26, 31* JUNE: 1, 6, 7*, 11, 14*, 16, 21*, 26, 28*
SHIRDI NASIK/PANCHA JYOTHIRLINGA* 7* DAYS
MAY: 24, 25*, 31 JUNE: 1*, 7, 8*, 14, 18* 21, 28
KERALA SPECIAL/ COASTAL KARNATAKA* 7/4* DAYS
MAY: 24, 27*, 31 JUNE: 3*, 7, 10*, 14, 17* 21, 28
GURUVAYUR TRIVENDRAM 7 DAYS MAY: 17, 24, 31 JUNE: 7, 14, 21
OOTY KODAIKANAL 5 DAYS MAY: 24
SOUTH INDIA 7 DAYS EX: MANGALORE MAY: 18, 25 JUNE: 1, 18, 25
SOUTH INDIA 9*/11 DAYS EX: HUBBALLI MAY: 26* 28 JUNE: 4*, 8, 19

HEALTH TIP: Warm water with lemon, green tea, black coffee (in moderation), cumin or fenugreek water can help burn fat

Fruits like apples, pears and berries are rich in antioxidants and fibre, thereby aids digestion and reduces piling up of fat in the body



All you need to know about...

Cut cravings

Helpful bites
New research from Yale University has found that eating certain foods at certain moments in the day can help you get a handle on those urges. These tricks can help you button-up those cravings.

1. After-lunch
You have had a heavy lunch and within half an hour you feel that your stomach is growling. According to a research published in the Journal of Nutrition, you tend to crave for something sweet as it is considered a reward food.
Tackle it: Have a fruit at least half an hour before your lunch and it will satiate your post lunch cravings.

2. Mid-afternoon
"I need-to-nosh now" pangs are highest during mid-afternoon. However, research from Yale University has some interesting findings. According to the scientists, eating high-glucose foods ahead of your usual craving time can help curb the craving.
Tackle it: Have one serving of high-glucose whole cereal like whole wheat chapati, broken wheat, bajra or jowar during your lunch.

3. Pre-bed snack
The time post dinner and between bed-time is one of the major culprits of obesity and cardiovascular diseases.
Tackle it: Treat yourself to a small dessert immediately after dinner. Try some apricots or raisins (4-5 nos.) or a small cube of cheese.

4. Post-workout
Any time after a work-out you tend to have an extra-ravenous appetite.
Tackle it: Have curd one and a half hours before you do any strenuous sweat-breaking workout. It will provide you the proteins that will prevent muscle breakdown and at the same time sufficient amounts of glucose that will prevent the post-workout cravings.

BM SIMPLY PUT

All you need to know about the outbreak and how it affects India

Hantavirus scare on cruise ship

A Hantavirus outbreak reported aboard a Dutch expedition cruise ship travelling in the South Atlantic has triggered global concern after multiple infections and deaths were reported among passengers. Two Indian crew members were reportedly on board the vessel, raising questions about possible health risks and India's preparedness. However, health experts and global agencies say the risk of a Covid-like outbreak remains extremely low.

Guardia Civil boats surround the MV Hondius after docking in the Granadilla Port on May 10 in Tenerife, part of the Canary Islands, Spain

What exactly happened on the cruise ship?
The Dutch cruise vessel MV Hondius, which was travelling across the South Atlantic Ocean with around 150 passengers from nearly 23 countries, reported multiple suspected Hantavirus infections during the voyage. According to reports, several passengers had disembarked midway during the journey, while eight suspected cases were later identified among those still on board. Of those, five infections were reportedly confirmed and three deaths linked to the virus were reported. The ship stopped at Saint Helena in the South Atlantic on April 24, after which international health authorities began tracing passengers who had already left the vessel.

Are Indians involved in the incident?
Reports suggest two Indian crew members were among those working on the ship. However, there is no official confirmation yet on whether they were infected or exposed to the virus. Indian health authorities are reportedly monitoring the situation closely.

What is Hantavirus?
Hantavirus is a zoonotic virus, meaning it spreads from animals to humans. It is primarily carried by rodents, especially rats and mice. Humans can get infected after coming into contact with infected rodent urine, saliva or droppings, particularly in poorly ventilated or contaminated spaces. The virus can cause serious illnesses affecting the lungs, kidneys and heart. In severe cases, it may lead to Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS), which can become life-threatening.

Does Hantavirus spread like Covid-19?
No. Medical experts and the World Health Organization have clarified that Hantavirus does not spread as easily as Covid-19. Most strains do not transmit from person to person. However, the strain reportedly detected on the ship is believed to be the "Andes virus", a rare South American strain known to have limited human-to-human transmission in certain situations. Even then, experts say the chances of it turning into a global pandemic are extremely low compared to coronavirus.

What are the symptoms of Hantavirus infection?
Early symptoms include fever, body pain, fatigue, headache and chills. In severe cases, patients may develop breathing difficulty, low blood pressure and lung complications. Since symptoms can initially resemble flu, diagnosis often requires laboratory testing and medical observation.

Is there a treatment or vaccine?
There is currently no specific antiviral treatment or approved vaccine for Hantavirus infection. Doctors say early medical care, oxygen support and close monitoring of lung and kidney function significantly improve survival chances.

Is India at risk?
Indian health authorities, including the Indian Council of Medical Research and the National Centre for Disease Control, are reportedly monitoring the developments. Experts say there is no immediate public health threat to India at present. Health officials have stressed that Hantavirus spreads mainly through rodent exposure and not through casual human interaction. They have advised people to maintain hygiene, avoid contact with rodent waste and ensure proper sanitation in storage areas and homes.

Why has the outbreak attracted global attention?
The incident has drawn international concern because passengers from several countries had travelled on the ship and some had disembarked before infections were identified. Countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Singapore, New Zealand and South Africa are reportedly tracing and monitoring passengers who may have come in contact with infected individuals. While the outbreak is being treated seriously, health agencies worldwide maintain that the overall public risk remains low.

MIRRORLIGHTS

Childless women perceived as perfect fit by employers: Research

Childless women are perceived as a perfect fit to be ideal workers by organisations because of their image of middle-class, professionally educated, career-oriented women who can negotiate well with gender roles, a research by Goa Institute of Management (GIM) has found.

The research published in the prestigious international journal "Equity, Diversity and Inclusion" is a study on workplace microaggressions, revealing new insights into how underlying gender norms shape the everyday experiences of childless women professionals.

The study revealed that workplace interactions with colleagues can reinforce exclusion. By challenging the general equation of womanhood with motherhood, the study positioned childlessness as a valid yet overlooked identity in organisational discourse.

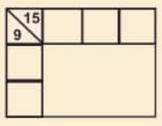
According to Shelly Pandey, Assistant Professor at GIM, the research found that many times, organisational cultures operate on unspoken assumptions linking femininity with motherhood.

"We found that these cultures often lead to marginalisation of women who do not conform to this expectation, be it by choice or circumstance. The team applied the concept of microaggression to document and analyse the experiences of 45 middle-class, professionally engaged childless women from different cities in India," she told PTI.

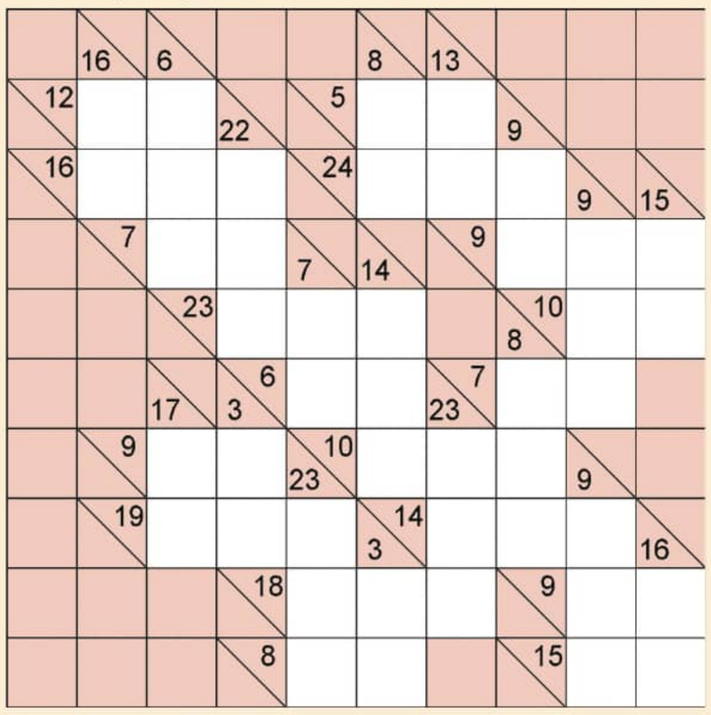
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

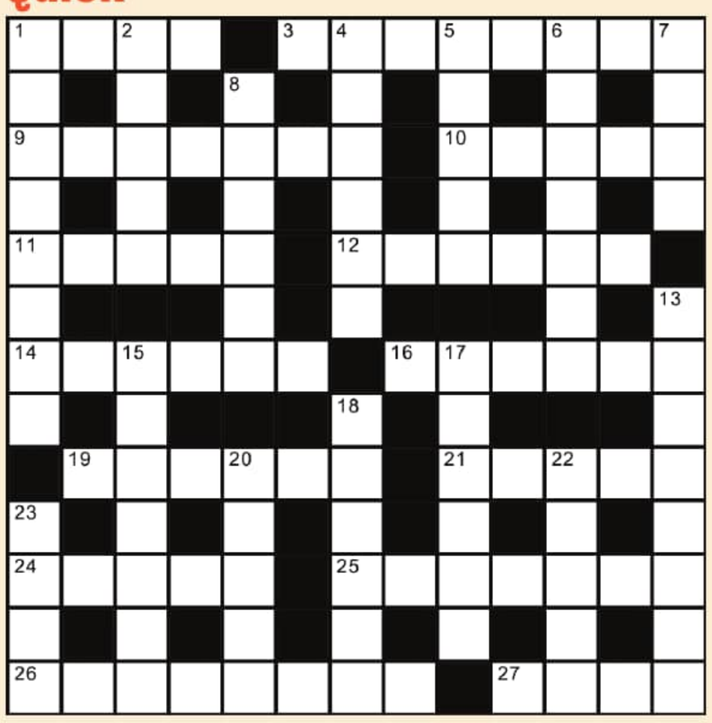
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Trivial lies (4)
3 ___ acid: Vitamin C (8)
9 German measles? (7)
10 Hurts (5)
11 The Muslim faith (5)
12 Diatribe or jeremiad (6)
14 Voracious insect (6)
16 Sound system (6)
19 Common burrowing animal (6)
21 Hill or a crest (5)
24 Jam-session features (5)
25 Transfer to another for care (7)
26 Genial, amiable and agreeable (8)
27 The first man (4)

DOWN

1 Compelling (8)
2 Biblical tower (5)
4 Barely sufficient (6)
5 Broadcasting (2,3)
6 Jayachamaraja Wodeyar ____ : Last king of Mysore and first Governor of Karnataka (7)
7 A container (4)
8 Mounts, ascends (6)
13 Force, impetus or velocity (8)
15 C in the NATO alphabet (7)
17 Cards used in fortune-telling? (6)
18 Scattered about (6)
20 Foundation (5)
22 Asterix's friend Getafix for one? (5)
23 Immediately (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: J EQUALS G

L EHBD ZDDU QED ZKLDUKD L RIYZELXDS, HUS QED HLYKYH-PQ L GIBDS, SDZQYIOLUJ QED KLBLGLVHQLIU L DCXDKQDS QEDA QI ZDYBD.–KEHYGDZ GLUSFDYJE

Linemaro

Are you nobody? Because nobody's perfect

Mindchow

He that lives upon hope will die fasting

Joke of the day

He doesn't know the meaning of the word 'fear;' of course, there are lots of words he doesn't know the meaning of

Loop

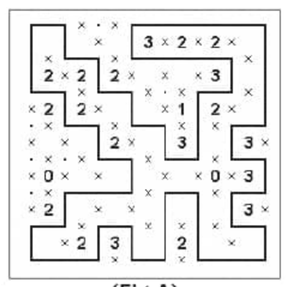
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

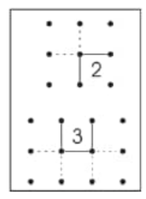
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

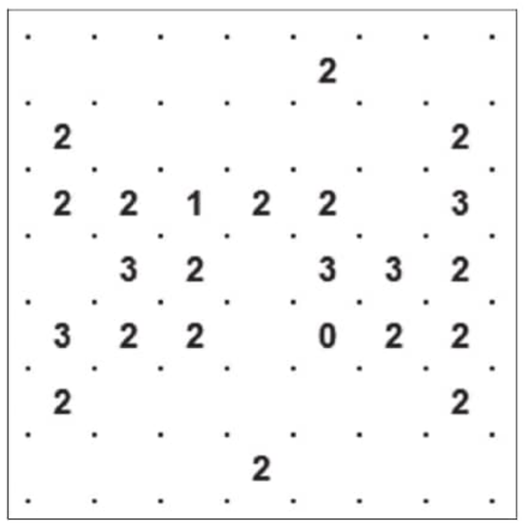
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



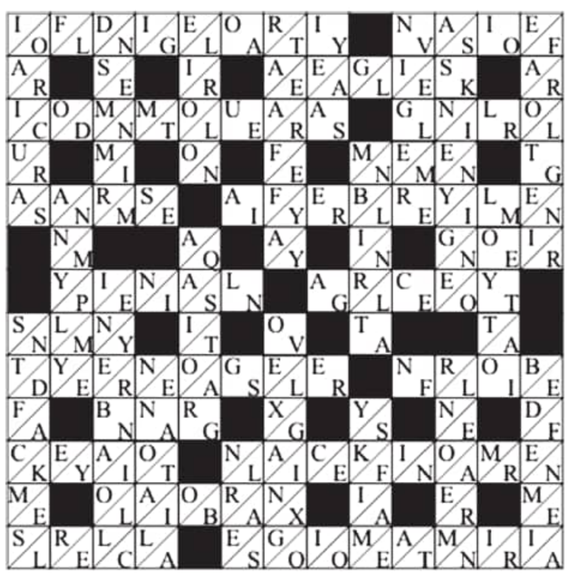
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



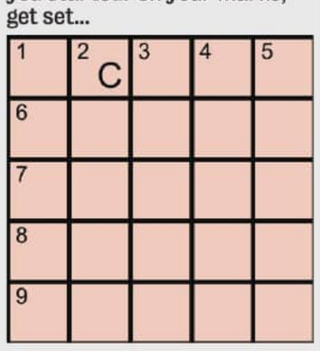
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

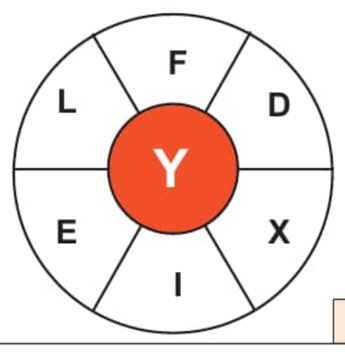
1 Mr Sic; 6 Aural; 7 Ombus; 8 Nones; 9 Gyros

DOWN

1 Lungs; 2 Comae; 3 Burro; 4 Noirs; 5 Say Ms

Mensapuzzle

Which letter completes the sequence?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; **05** Good; **06** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		7	2					
	9			3				1
3			1		4	2		
		5	6				4	
	4		3		8		7	
	3				9	1		
		2	8		1			3
6				7			1	
					2	4		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

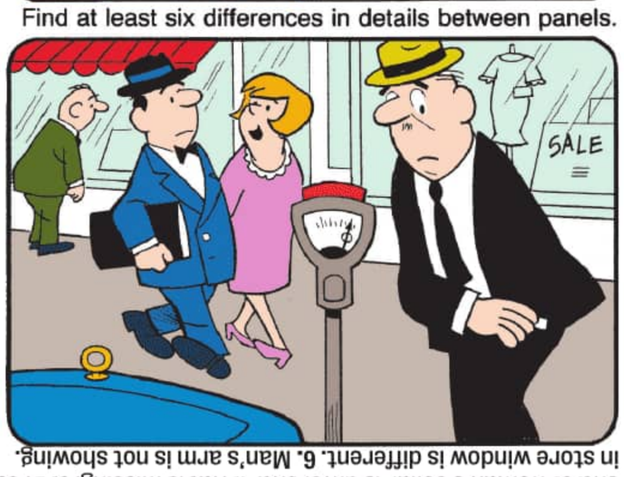
Easy = 11
2 9 9 5

Medium = 21
4 6 8 3

Hard = 16
2 5 6 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



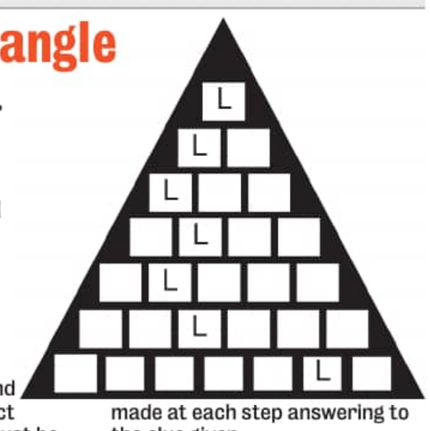
Differences: 1. Parking meter is moved. 2. Awning is different. 3. Woman's collar is different. 4. Hat is missing. 5. Dress in store window is different. 6. Man's arm is not showing.

Riddler

He starts and ends 2 common English words. One painful in love, one painful in everyday matter. Do you know what 2 words I must be?

Alpha triangle

1 Litre
2 Behold's partner
3 Auction buy
4 Ink entry
5 Swell up
6 Pumpkin-shaped
7 Famed

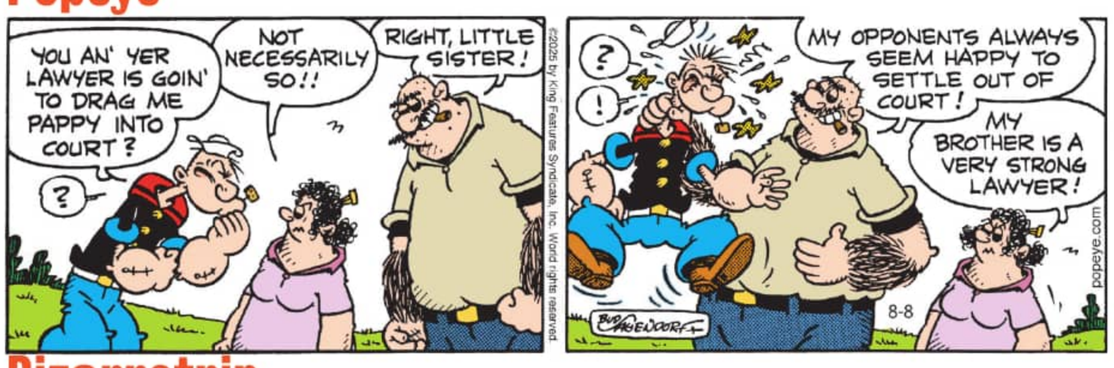


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

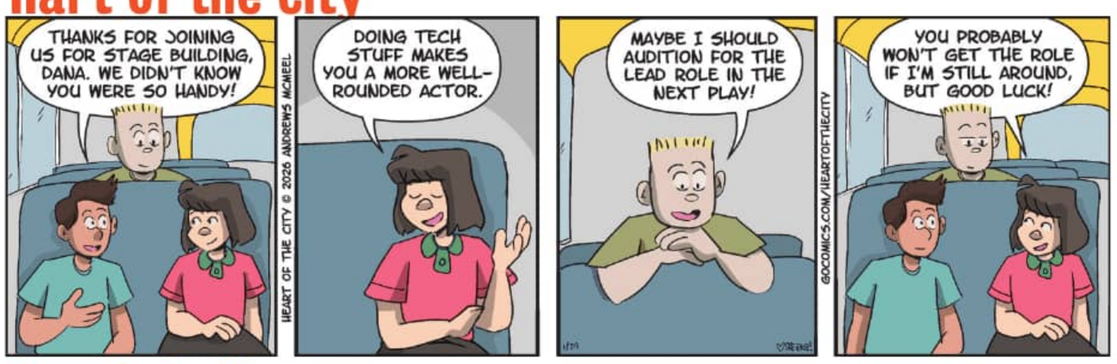

YOU AN' YER LAWYER IS GOIN' TO DRAG ME PAPPY INTO COURT?
NOT NECESSARILY SO!!
RIGHT, LITTLE SISTER!
MY OPPONENTS ALWAYS SEEM HAPPY TO SETTLE OUT OF COURT!
MY BROTHER IS A VERY STRONG LAWYER!
8-8
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

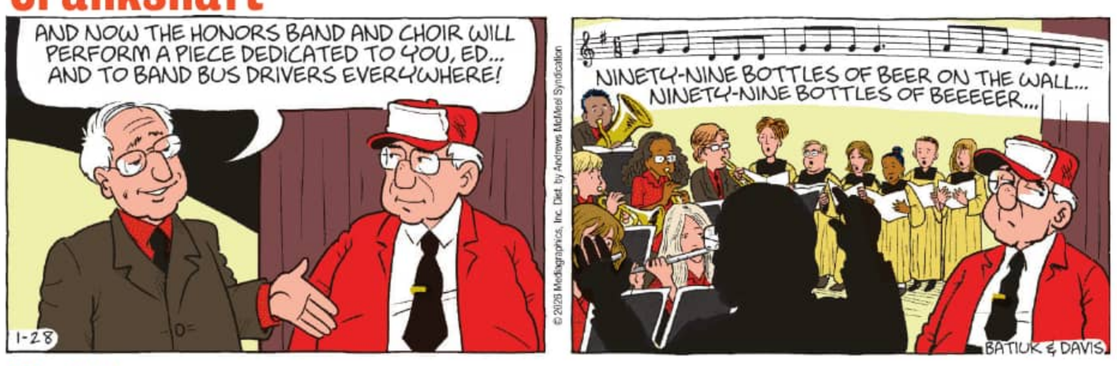
Diamond Lil

WHAT'S WRONG WITH BLACK OLIVES ON A PIZZA, SAM?
THEY LOOK LIKE LITTLE RUBBER WASHERS
SO?
I MAKE IT A GENERAL RULE NEVER TO EAT HARDWARE
©2015 creators.com
www.creators.com
1/28

Hart of the city


THANKS FOR JOINING US FOR STAGE BUILDING, DANA. WE DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SO HANDY!
DOING TECH STUFF MAKES YOU A MORE WELL-ROUNDED ACTOR.
MAYBE I SHOULD AUDITION FOR THE LEAD ROLE IN THE NEXT PLAY!
YOU PROBABLY WON'T GET THE ROLE IF I'M STILL AROUND, BUT GOOD LUCK!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


AND NOW THE HONORS BAND AND CHOIR WILL PERFORM A PIECE DEDICATED TO YOU, ED... AND TO BAND BUS DRIVERS EVERYWHERE!
NINETY-NINE BOTTLES OF BEER ON THE WALL... NINETY-NINE BOTTLES OF BEEEEER...
© 2026 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
BATIUK & DAVIS
1-28

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Intuition becomes your practical guide for the next twelve months. You will learn to bridge the gap between your inner feelings and outer actions. A mentor appearing in June provides crucial guidance for your career. Focus on refining your existing skills rather than starting something entirely new. Your wisdom attracts people seeking advice, placing you in a natural teaching role.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

People may feel impatient today, so keep things light and calm. Avoid sensitive discussions around money or responsibilities, and choose understanding with loved ones. A gentle approach keeps everything smooth.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Emotions can run high today, so pause before speaking and give yourself space to respond thoughtfully. If plans feel overwhelming, reschedule and focus on creating a relaxed, enjoyable atmosphere instead.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Interactions may feel tense, so take a moment before reacting and keep your responses measured. Staying calm helps you avoid misunderstandings and keeps situations from escalating unnecessarily throughout the day.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Money matters or topics could feel sensitive today, so approach conversations gently and listen carefully. Choosing patience over reaction will help maintain harmony and keep your relationships supportive and balanced.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Family dynamics intense today, so lead with warmth and avoid unnecessary confrontations. Your charm can ease tension, helping everyone feel heard and appreciated while keeping the atmosphere positive and cooperative.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

Energy may feel bit scattered today, but staying composed and thoughtful will help you navigate situations smoothly. Use your natural diplomacy to prevent misunderstandings and encourage calmer, more productive interactions.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Financial discussions require care today, especially with friends or groups. Stay balanced, listen openly, and avoid taking things personally. Your sense of fairness will help maintain harmony and mutual understanding.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

You feel driven today, so slow down and think before acting or speaking. Mindful helps you avoid unnecessary mistakes and keeps interactions smoother, while allowing your strength to shine positively.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Conversations can become heated today, so choose your words carefully and focus on common ground. Avoid sensitive topics, and instead encourage understanding, positivity, and peaceful exchanges in all your interactions.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Social plans off today, especially around shared responsibilities or expenses. Stay flexible, keep things light, and go with the flow to ensure your time with others remains enjoyable and relaxed.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

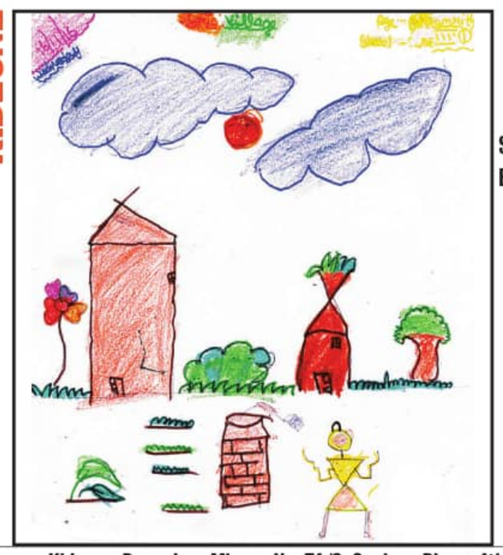
Relationships may feel tense today, so practice patience and clear communication. Staying calm and understanding will help you navigate differences smoothly and maintain strong, supportive connections with those around you.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

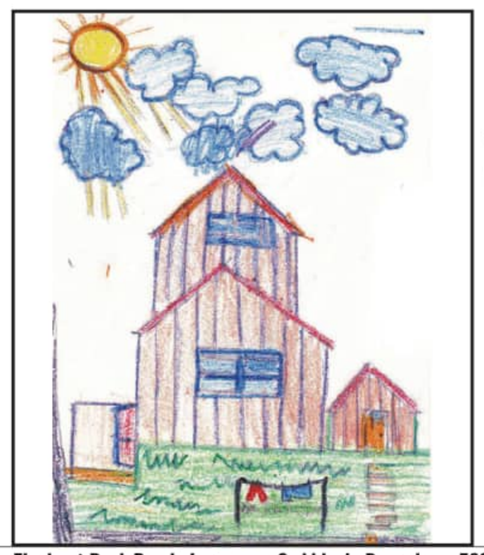
Discussions around money or shared matters feel tricky today, so give them time. Postponing decisions and approaching things later with clarity will lead to better outcomes and more cooperative conversations.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Samritha, Bengaluru



Yashvardhan, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

(1 + 3 + 9 + 27) / √(1 + 7 + 49 + 343)
40 / √400 = 40 / 20 = 2

QUOTE UNCODE

I have seen the science I worshiped, and the aircraft I loved, destroying the civilization I expected them to serve. - Charles Lindbergh

RIDDLER

Headache and Headache

FAST FIVE

G	O	R	S	Y
N	E	O	N	S
U	M	B	O	S
L	A	U	R	A
S	C	R	I	M

STRIKE OUT

O	L	D	G	L	O	R	Y	■	N	A	I	F	■	A
C	O	N	T	O	U	R	S	■	G	I	L	L	■	T
U	■	I	■	N	■	E	■	M	E	N	■	T	■	E
S	A	M	E	■	A	F	E	B	R	I	L	E	■	■
■	■	■	■	Q	■	Y	■	I	■	N	O	R	■	■
P	E	N	A	L	■	G	R	E	E	T	■	■	■	■
S	L	Y	■	T	■	V	■	A	■	T	■	■	■	■
T	E	E	N	A	G	E	R	■	F	L	O	E	■	■
A	■	B	A	R	■	X	■	S	■	E	■	D	■	■
K	Y	A	T	■	N	I	C	K	N	A	M	E	■	■
E	■	L	A	B	A	N	■	I	■	R	■	M	■	■
S	E	L	L	■	E	G	O	M	A	N	I	A	■	■

QUICK

F	I	B	S	■	A	S	C	O	R	B	I	C	■	A
O	■	A	■	C	■	N	■	A	■	H	E	S	■	■
R	U	B	E	L	L	A	■	A	C	H	E	S	■	■
C	■	E	■	I	■	N	■	T	I	R	A	D	E	■
I	S	L	A	M	■	■	■	Y	■	U	■	■	M	■
B	■	■	■	B	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
L	O	C	U	S	T	■	S	T	E	R	E	O	■	■
E	■	■	■	H	■	S	■	■	■	A	■	M	■	■
R	A	B	B	I	T	■	R	■	R	I	D	G	E	■
A	■	R	■	A	■	R	■	O	■	R	■	N	■	■
S	O	L	O	S	■	E	N	T	R	U	S	T	■	■
A	■	■	■	I	■	W	■	S	■	I	■	U	■	■
P	L	E	A	S	A	N	T	■	A	D	A	M	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE

B. Divide the numerical value of the left hand letter by the numerical value of the right hand letter to give the value of the lower letter.

BULL'S EYE

defy, deify, edify, FIXEDLY, idly, yield

SUDOKU

5	1	7	2	8	6	9	3	4
2	9	4	7	3	5	8	6	1
3	6	8	1	9	4	2	5	7
8	2	5	6	1	7	3	4	9
9	4	1	3	2	8	6	7	5
7	3	6	5	4	9	1	2	8
4	5	2	8	6	1	7	9	3
6	8	9	4	7	3	5	1	2
1	7	3	9	5	2	4	8	6

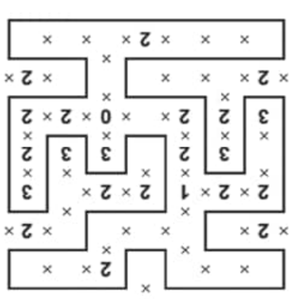
ALPHA TRIANGLE

L, Lo, Lot, Blot, Bloat, Oblate, Notable.

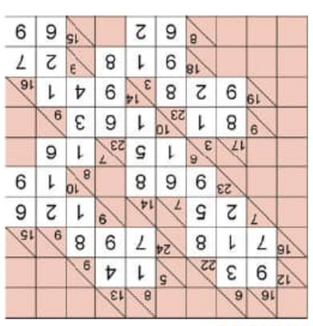
GO FIGURE

Easy
9 + 9 − 5 − 2 = 11
Medium
6 + 8 + 3 + 4 = 21
Hard
5 + 6 − 3 x 2 = 16

LOOP



KAKURO



Volume No 19, Issue No 092 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore–560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru–560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon–responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Mothers know best

Meet Bollywood's 'momagers' who shaped iconic careers

In Bollywood, a mother's role often goes far beyond emotional support. Over the decades, several star moms have stepped into the role of guides, decision-makers, and protectors, quietly influencing careers while standing firmly behind their children. According to Mid-Day, these women blurred the line between parenting and management, creating a space where ambition and care coexisted. As Mother's Day approaches, it is the perfect moment to revisit these powerful mother-child equations that helped define generations of stars. **–ETimes**

Raveena Tandon and Rasha Thadani

Among the newer mother-daughter duos, Raveena Tandon and Rasha Thadani showcase a relationship that blends guidance with companionship. Raveena, having experienced the highs and lows of the industry herself, brings valuable insight into her daughter's journey. At the same time, their bond is rooted in friendship, making communication open and honest.

Sara Ali Khan and Amrita Singh

Sara Ali Khan shares a deeply rooted connection with her mother Amrita Singh, one that goes beyond traditional parenting. Amrita has been actively involved in guiding Sara through the early stages of her career, offering both practical advice and emotional reassurance. Sara has often acknowledged that her confidence and choices are influenced by her mother's perspective.

Ananya Panday and Bhavana Pandey

With the rise of reality shows like 'The Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives', audiences got a closer look at Bhavana Pandey's personality and her role in shaping Ananya Panday's life. Bhavana represents the modern momager who combines emotional intelligence with practical guidance. She has been a constant support system for Ananya, helping her navigate the pressures of fame while staying grounded.

Priyanka Chopra and Madhu Chopra

Priyanka Chopra has often credited her mother, Dr. Madhu Chopra, for playing a crucial role in shaping her career. From handling professional commitments to making key decisions, her mother acted as a strong pillar during her rise in Bollywood and beyond, helping her build an international presence.

Sobhita's advice

Chanel recently found itself at the centre of controversy after dressing Telugu-origin model Bhavitha Mandava in jeans for the Met Gala, sparking a wider conversation about meaningful representation on the global stage. Amid the debate, Dubai-based influencer Srilata Addepalli posted a detailed video celebrating the strides made by Telugu women in the global spotlight, highlighting icons like Bhavitha, Sobhita Dhulipala and Raja Kumari as trailblazers who have broken barriers for their community.

Sobhita Dhulipala herself took notice of the video and left a comment that was nothing short of inspiring. Offering a piece of wisdom that felt deeply personal, she wrote, "Lean in to your essence, no matter what. My most meaningful moments have come when I did what my instinct told me to, even when it's totally illogical or unproductive. And every single time I did something otherwise, only I know how it backfired. Honour yourself. This life is a short sail across the river, cherishing the breeze and the current." **–ETimes**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

New avatar

Director BSP Varma gears up to handle the megaphone for his fourth movie Maachis, an action-revenge drama. Varma is known for the films Urvi, The Fallen are Connected, and Murphy.

Maachis is set to go on floors in July and its shooting is planned in and around Bengaluru and Himachal Pradesh.

The movie was announced on the occasion of Vinay Rajkumar's birthday on May 7. The poster shows Vinay in a different avatar on the silver screen. "I approach actors only after completing the script work. I never write a script keeping a particular hero in mind. After completing the script work, I thought Vinay was the right choice to play the lead. I like Vinay's method of selecting movies and also his maturity as an actor," said Varma.

He said the movie may not have a lead actress. "It is an action-revenge drama that revolves around the underworld of Bengaluru. I am happy to have Suresh Gowda Hennur as producer because he doesn't compromise on quality," the director said.

Off to Cannes

The team of September 21 was happy to get Real Star Upendra and actor-cum-director Indrajit Lankesh as guests at the movie's promotional event held at SRV Theater on Friday. The guests unveiled the trailer of the movie, scheduled for release on May 15.

The movie is directed by Karun Kshiti Survana while Priyanka Upendra plays the lead.

"September 21 was filmed in Kannada and Hindi simultaneously. It will be screened at the Cannes Film Festival on May 15. I am over the moon about my maiden movie selected for screening at the Cannes Film Festival. The movie is about Alzheimer's disease. The movie's tagline is -- The decision of the caretaker is more important than the patient. Priyanka Upendra plays the caretaker in a first-of-its-kind role in her career," said Suvarna.

Thanking the guests, Priyanka said that she agreed to act in the movie as the script is interesting. "I closely observed the progression of Alzheimer's in one of my family members," she said.

Praveen Singh Sisodia plays the Alzhemer's patient.

The movie features Zarina Wahab, and Amit Behl.